Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, On June 10, 1963, a young lady was hired by South Dakota's public welfare agency as a worker in the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC), Old Age Assistance and Aid to the Disabled and Blind programs, launching a career for Mary Lee Williams; and,

Whereas, Seven years later, Mary Lee became the supervisor for the unit that performed all daily intakes for eligibility programs and walk-in child protection cases, however, 1972 federal law required the separation of benefit programs and child protection services; and,

Whereas, For more than 19 years, Mary Lee served as Field Program Specialist, responsible for the administration and local implementation of all eligibility programs in a multi-county area that covered southeastern South Dakota; and,

Whereas, December 2001 brought new responsibilities to Mary Lee as she became the district supervisor for southeastern South Dakota until August 2005 when she assumed the title of regional manager and the responsibilities of administration of eligibility programs and personnel for Minnehaha, Lincoln and Parker Counties; and,

Whereas, Mary Lee witnessed a number of agency and program name changes, as well as constant federal regulation changes, and always adapted quickly; and,

Whereas, On numerous occasions, Mary Lee was asked to assist with training of state staff, and represented South Dakota at regional and national meetings in order to train others around the country on the program eligibility efficiencies South Dakota had developed with her valued assistance; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize the professional accomplishments of this outstanding South Dakotan on the occasion of her retirement from 44 years of service to the Department of Social Services:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 8, 2007, as

MARY LEE WILLIAMS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with her colleagues, family and friends in wishing her a fulfilling and happy retirement.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State